

**Senate Joint Resolution**

**No. 10**

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**Introduced by Senator Lieu**

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April 22, 2013

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Senate Joint Resolution No. 10—Relative to the Workforce Investment Act.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 10, as amended, Lieu. Workforce Investment Act: reauthorization by the United States Congress.

This measure would urge the Congress of the United States to reauthorize the federal Workforce Investment Act and to include specified policies and strategies in support of the act.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Over 8 million people were served nationally by
- 2 the public workforce system funded by the federal Workforce

1 Investment Act (WIA) (29 U.S.C. Sec. 2801 et seq.), a 234 percent  
2 increase in participation rates in just two years; and

3 WHEREAS, Over 4.3 million WIA participants found jobs  
4 through the public workforce system; and

5 WHEREAS, The policy of investing in a highly productive  
6 workforce through programs that foster skills, attainment, and  
7 human capital development is important to ensure that California  
8 and the United States can compete in the global economy; and

9 WHEREAS, The policy of investing in programs that foster  
10 skills attainment and human capital development is important for  
11 achieving employment, economic security, and opportunities for  
12 career advancement and upward mobility for WIA service  
13 recipients; and

14 WHEREAS, While the national economy is beginning to expand,  
15 there continue to be areas of high unemployment throughout  
16 California that are lagging behind the nation's recovery from the  
17 recession; and

18 WHEREAS, The federal budget for Fiscal Year 2010 and going  
19 forward has reduced available funding for an array of national  
20 workforce programs targeting dislocated workers, low-income  
21 adults, veterans, disconnected young adults, and other highly  
22 vulnerable groups in the labor market; and

23 WHEREAS, The Department of Labor has been extremely  
24 supportive of operating and evaluating the Adult and Dislocated  
25 Workers Program and Youth Employment and Youth Build  
26 programs; and

27 WHEREAS, Policies need to be established to ensure program  
28 responsiveness to the needs of employers, workers, and students  
29 who benefit from investment in the workforce; and

30 WHEREAS, Policies need to be established to encourage  
31 collaboration between state and local workforce investment boards  
32 and the stakeholders whom they serve, including businesses,  
33 unions, nonprofit organizations, K-12 programs, career technical  
34 education programs, basic skills programs, and systems of higher  
35 education including community colleges; and

36 WHEREAS, Policies need to be established to link program  
37 service delivery strategies to data analysis, ensuring that program  
38 practices are evidence based; and

39 WHEREAS, Policies need to be established to ensure that  
40 programs and services are outcome oriented and accountable,

1 measuring results for program participants, including outcomes  
2 related to program completion, skills attainment, employment, and  
3 earnings; and

4 WHEREAS, Policies need to be established to ensure that  
5 programs are accessible to employers, workers, and students,  
6 including disadvantaged populations and individuals with  
7 employment barriers; and

8 WHEREAS, Congress should include measures in the WIA to  
9 ensure that state and local workforce investment boards are  
10 representative of relevant stakeholders, including business and  
11 labor leaders from statewide, regional, and locally competitive or  
12 emergent industry sectors; and

13 WHEREAS, Congress should include measures in the WIA to  
14 utilize demand-driven strategies, including sector-based strategies,  
15 that are connected to regional economies and labor markets,  
16 particularly those strategies that link investment in skills attainment  
17 with the skills needs of competitive or emergent industry sectors;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Congress should include measures in the WIA to  
20 expand opportunities for skills attainment, lifelong learning, and  
21 enrollment in learn and earn programs which prepare workers for  
22 jobs with a future; and

23 WHEREAS, Congress should include measures in the WIA to  
24 ensure adequate funding for programs that have demonstrated  
25 success in engaging at risk populations, including high risk youth,  
26 and are instrumental in developing a competitive workforce. These  
27 include career pathways programs, summer youth employment  
28 programs, contextualized adult basic skills education and G.E.D.  
29 literacy programs, vocational training, and incumbent worker  
30 programs; and

31 WHEREAS, Congress should include measures in the WIA to  
32 prioritize service strategies that target disadvantaged populations,  
33 including strategies that expand outreach to immigrant  
34 communities; and

35 WHEREAS, Congress should include measures in the WIA to  
36 utilize service delivery models that are efficient and effective by  
37 encouraging and strengthening collaborative partnerships that  
38 leverage the infrastructures, expertise, and resources of service  
39 providers, educational institutions, businesses and unions, and  
40 other stakeholders. These may include, when appropriate, One-Stop

1 Career Centers or other service delivery models facilitating  
2 individuals' access to employment programs, services and training  
3 opportunities; and

4 WHEREAS, Congress should include measures in the WIA to  
5 provide incentives for public-private partnerships; now, therefore,  
6 be it

7 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*  
8 *California, jointly,* That the California State Legislature urges the  
9 Congress of the United States to reauthorize the Workforce  
10 Investment Act this year and include in it the policies and strategies  
11 referenced above; and be it further

12 *Resolved,* That the California State Legislature calls on business  
13 leaders to collaborate with the State Workforce Investment Board  
14 and local workforce investment boards in California to coinvest  
15 in workforce education and career exploration counseling for high  
16 school students and workers of all ages and to work with education  
17 and local leaders to develop appropriate curriculum that is  
18 responsive to workforce trends and results in industry-recognized  
19 credentials that have currency in the job market.